ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electrically heatable glow plug or a glow rod for internal combustion engines. The glow plug has a corrosion-resistant glow pipe which is closed at the end and contains a filling of electrically non-conductive, compacted powder in which an electrically conductive coil is embedded. In order to improve the glow plug or the glow rod with respect to a longer service life for the heating coil, the electrically conductive coil is surface-hardened, at least over part of its longitudinal extent, preferably in the region of the heating coil. In particular, it is nitride-hardened by a diffusion treatment. As a result, the coil can withstand the mechanical stress during the compaction process without being damaged at the outset.